PATENT
Attorney DocketNo. 492.216

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:
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SC/Serial No.: 10/049,319
Confirm. No.: 3711 Art Unit: 3677
Filed: February 5, 2002
For: CLOSURE DEVICE Examiner: J. R. Brittain

PENDING CLAIMS AFTER AMENDMENTS
MADE IN RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED

1. (Amended) A closure device, comprising:

first and second interlocking fastening strips arranged to be interlocked over a predetermined x axis between first and second ends, the fastening strips being secured together at the first and second ends;

a slider slidably disposed on the fastening strips for movement between the first and second ends, the slider facilitating occlusion of the fastening strips when moved towards the first end, the slider including a separator for facilitating the deocclusion of the fastening strips when the slider is moved towards the second end wherein the slider has a back plate and first and second sidewalls and the separator depends from the back plate and the separator's position is fixed relative to the positions of the first and second sidewalls; and

the first fastening strip includes a first flange portion which extends inward toward the second fastening strip, a first altered flange portion near the first end of the first fastening strip.

2. The invention as in claim 1 wherein the first fastening strip includes a first closure element, the first flange portion is located above the first closure element.

3. The invention as in claim 1 wherein the separator engages the first flange portion.

4. The invention as in claim 3 wherein the separator engages the first flange portion to facilitate deocclusion of the fastening strips.

5. The invention as in claim 1 wherein the first altered flange portion is formed by flattening the material of the first flange portion.

6. The invention as in claim 5 wherein the first altered flange portion extends upward after flattening the material of the first flange portion.

7. The invention as claim 1 wherein the first altered flange portion is formed by removing the material of the first flange portion.

8. The invention as in claim 2 wherein the first flange portion is formed separately from the first closure element, the first flange portion is then joined to the first closure element.

9. The invention as in claim 1 wherein the second fastening strip includes a second flange portion which extends inward toward the second fastening strip, a second altered flange portion immediately adjacent to the first end of the fastening strips.

10. The invention as in claim 9 wherein the first altered flange portion is formed by flattening the material of the first flange portion, the second altered flange portion is formed by flattening the material of the second flange portion.

11. The invention as in claim 9 wherein the first fastening strip includes a first closure element, the first closure element is a U-channel closure element, the second fastening strip includes a second closure element, the second closure element is a U-channel closure element.

12. The invention as in claim 1 wherein the fastening strips are U-channel fastening strips.

13. The invention as in claim 1 wherein the fastening strips are arrowhead type fastening strips.

14. The invention as in claim 1 wherein the fastening strips are profile type fastening strips.

15. The invention as in claim 1 wherein the fastening strips are rolling action type fastening strips.

16. (Amended) A container comprising:

first and second sidewalls to form a compartment with an opening;

first and second interlocking fastening strips respectively connected to the first and second sidewalls at the opening, the fastening strips being arranged to be interlocked over a predetermined x axis between the first and second ends, the fastening strips being secured together at the first and second ends;

a slider slidably disposed on the fastening strips for movement between the first and second ends, the slider facilitating occlusion of the fastening strips when moved towards the first end, the slider including a separator for facilitating the deocclusion of the fastening strips when moved towards the second end wherein the slider has a back plate and first and second slider sidewalls and the separator depends from the back plate and the separator's position is fixed relative to the positions of the first and second slider sidewalls; and

the first fastening strip includes a first flange portion which extends inward toward the second fastening strip, a first altered flange portion near the first end of the first fastening strip.

17. (Amended) A method of manufacturing a closure device, comprising:

providing first and second interlocking fastening strips arranged to be interlocked over a predetermined X axis between first and second ends, the fastening strips being secured together at the first and second ends;

providing a slider slidably disposed on the fastening strips for movement between the first and second ends, the slider facilitating occlusion of the fastening strips when moved towards the first end, the slider including a separator for facilitating the deocclusion of the fastening strips when the slider is moved towards the second end wherein the slider has a back plate and first and second sidewalls and the separator depends from the back plate and the separator's position is fixed relative to the positions of the first and second sidewalls; and

providing the first fastening strip includes a first flange portion which extends inward toward the second fastening strip, a first altered flange portion near the first end of the first fastening strip.